

GPNA Board Meeting
Meeting Minutes – May 13, 2025
Submitted by Ari Grubner

Attending: Molly Hamill, Stacey Tipp, David Richardson, Ari Grubner, Jill DeRosa, Miro Wesener, Neon Brooks, Jake Wicks (online), Eldo Varghese (online)

Absent: Tess Ipsen, Daniel Hoyer

Guests: Debbie Richardson

Call to Order: Molly Hamill called the meeting to order at 7:05pm

Welcome, Board and Guest Introductions

Thanking our Sponsor

- Meeting began with a short recognition of gratitude for COOPER Design Build.

Approval of the agenda*

- Agenda correction: Miro Wesener will present an update on the Fundraising and Events Committee
- * David Richardson motioned to approve, seconded by Miro Wesener, all in favor.

Approval of last meeting's minutes* (Ari)

- * Stacey Tipp motioned to approve, seconded by David Richardson, all in favor, Neon Brooks abstained.

Confirmation of changes to Bylaws

- Does not require a vote to confirm changes, included for due diligence.
- David Richardson has additions to offer; discussion followed. Any changes to the Bylaws will require notice and the holding of a special meeting in order to vote.

Treasurer's Report, FY 2026 Budget, and Recommendations Regarding Research into Obtaining 501(c)(3) Exempt Status (David)

David Richardson reviewed the Treasurer's Report as of 4/30/25. In the months of March and April, GPNA received a \$2,000 check from NECN (business sponsorship from Cooper Design) and \$713 in advertising fees. GPNA incurred approximately \$800 in expenses (\$600 for the spring newsletter). The 4/30/25 bank balance grew by \$1,913 to \$14,270.

- * Neon Brooks motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Miro Wesener, with the board voting unanimously to accept the report.

Next, David presented the draft FY 2026 budget. Discussion. Following feedback regarding the reasonableness of various revenue and expense amounts, David proposed that budgeted donations be reduced from \$2,000 to \$1,000, resulting in an FY 2006 budget consisting of \$6,500 in revenue, approximately \$4,800 in expenses, and a net surplus of \$1,700.

- * Miro Wesener motioned to adopt the FY 2026 Budget including the agreed upon donations reduction, seconded by Stacey Tipp, with the board voting unanimously to adopt the budget.

As part of his research into applying for 501(c)(3) exempt status, David spoke with the Boise Neighborhood Association co-chair, reviewed their by-laws, and proposed amendments to GPNA's by-laws to include 1) Standards, Practices, and Law and 2) Dissolution sections. Following discussion of by-law revision requirements, it was agreed to finalize the by-law revisions in the next few weeks.

- * Neon Brooks acknowledged the changes to our bylaws as written and requested that the president call a special meeting in order to allow wider voting on the changes to our bylaws, seconded by Stacey Tipp, all in favor.

David then described options available to GPNA to remedy its current taxable non-profit status. He recommended that he verify with the Oregon Secretary of State that establishing a new entity is a viable option, and if so, begin the process of doing so. He agreed to also reach out to NECN.

- Based on the description of the options available, the GPNA board indicated comfort with David moving forward with these recommendations.

NECN Report (Miro)

- Attended the NECN retreat
 1. New rounds of grants available
 2. Good continued connections with similar-minded neighborhoods
 3. Clarity that our contract with NECN requires that NECN provide insurance

Land Use and Transportation Committee Update (Neon)

1. Grant Bowl Lights: hearing on June 11 @ 9am on Zoom. The public comment period related to the Grant Bowl Lights is open until the hearing date of June 11.
2. Knott Safety & Crosswalks:
 - a. Knott Safety & Crosswalks: Susan Weedall continues to work on this initiative; received commitment from PBOT that crosswalks likely for 2026.

Running a survey over the summer to get community feedback on crosswalk location(s)

- b. Safety measures west of 33rd: GPNA has heard concern re: drivers running stop signs. We are brainstorming how to make this area safer for people walking
3. Beverly Cleary School: PPS has experienced continued pressure to put moneys from the upcoming bond vote towards PPS schools in need of crucial seismic reinforcement.
4. Gordon's Auction: now scheduled for July
5. Neon to step down as Land Use Chair; after conversation with Molly related to continued work, Neon agreed to remain on the GPNA board at-large.

Vote on new Land use Committee Chair*

- * Neon Brooks was nominated to serve as a member at-large on the Grant Park Neighborhood Association Board, all votes in favor.
- * Miro Wesener volunteered to serve as the Vice President on the Grant Park Neighborhood Association Board, all votes in favor.
- * Neon Brooks nominated Eldo Varghese to serve as the Land Use Chair within the Land Use Committee of the Grand Park Neighborhood Association, all votes in favor.

Fundraising and Events Committee Update (Miro)

- Miro Wesener provided an update on the most recent meeting of the Fundraising and Events Committee, namely the intention to host a Summer GPNA event.
- Related to the specific ideas that gained traction in the meeting, Miro indicated that there is likely a conflict of interest involving both Miro as well as Tess Ipsen related to the proposed "Icicle Bicycle."
- Along with other ideas such as facepainting and other family fun, discussion was had around the requirements for neighborhood associations looking to host events in public parks. The costs and requirements laid out by Parks & Rec for our proposed event may exceed what is feasible for us – particularly rented bathrooms, specific insurance requirements, and restrictions on donations/sponsorships.
- The Fundraising and Events Committee will meet again to discuss this event further.

Newsletter Editor's Report (Stacey)

- Deadline is May 23
- Increased need for general interest pieces after the departure of Linda and Kara
- Stacey is open to and asked the board to help consider new advertisers

- Eldo agreed to help with IT/graphic design as it relates to the newsletter and ads

GPNET Announcements and Updates (Molly)

- May 14 NET Meeting: Beverly Cleary School structure and integrity is a big priority right now
- Now meeting every two months

Other Business

- Clarification around Portland Police practices: Portland Police will not assist ICE agents in operations
- Confirmation of Board Roster and contact info

Adjourn*

- * Stacey Tipp motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Neon Brooks, all votes in favor.
- Meeting adjourned at 8:56pm